

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIM

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. An electromagnetic contactor, characterized in comprising:

a return spring;

~~an operation electromagnet consisting of device that includes~~ a fixed iron core having an electromagnetic coil and a movable iron core attracted to ~~this the~~ fixed iron core by ~~against~~ the elastic force of a ~~the~~ return spring; wherein,

a plate spring;

a plurality of movable contacts, one for each of a plurality of phases;

~~a movable contact support retaining the movable contacts, the movable contacts being~~ connected to the a back face of the movable iron core via a ~~the~~ plate spring, ~~retains a movable contact for each phase; and,~~

~~a mold frame for guiding the movable contact support in a slidable manner, is fixed with a, and~~

a pair of front and rear fixed contacts fixed to said mold frame;

~~wherein, when the excitation of the electromagnetic coil allows the movable iron core to be attracted to the fixed core, the movable contacts bridges the fixed contacts, and, when the demagnetization of the electromagnetic coil allows the movable iron core to be released, the spring force of the return spring moves the movable iron core, and the movable contacts is are separated from the fixed contacts, and the movable iron core collides with the mold frame to stop; and~~

~~wherein the mold frame is formed with a pair of includes first and second collision sections that are opposed to the back face of the movable iron core with the movable contact support therebetween, these collision sections are provided to have having different heights so that an end face of the first collision section is disposed closer to said fixed iron core than an end face of the second collision section; and,~~

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

(10/536,754)

Atty. Dkt.: FEC 149NP

wherein the movable contact support has a base bottom face that abuts the back face of the movable iron core, the base bottom face having an inclined plane is provided in the vicinity of the higher collision section of the mold frame, base bottom face abutted with the back face of the movable iron core, of the movable contact support such that the inclined plane is lowered from below the a point in front of the a center of this the base bottom face toward the end part.